

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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COUNTRY	Free Territory of Trieste	REPORT NO.	<input type="text"/>
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BY CABLE

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A meeting of approximately 100 specially invited members of the pro-Cominform Communist Party of Trieste was held . The meeting was presided over by the following prominent members: Giovanni Postogna, Laura Weiss, Maria Bernetic, Karlo Siskovic, and Arturo Calabria.¹

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1. Party leader Vidali discussed the following topics at the meeting:
 - a. The Soviet peace campaign, which he contended was isolating the United States;
 - b. The victory of the Italian Communist Party in the Italian elections;
 - c. Cooperation with the Italian Communist Party (PCI). He stated that the Trieste Party has more to gain through cooperation with the PCI than with the Slovenes.
 - d. Italo-Yugoslav relations. Vidali alleged that Yugoslavia is trying to isolate Italy from the Balkan Pact, and has no desire to alter the status quo on Trieste.
 - e. The need for greater self-criticism. Vidali stated that recent events in Germany, Czechoslovakia, and Hungary reflect failures of the mass organizations.
 - f. Failure of the local party to properly exploit the local situation. Vidali criticized the Party press, the anti-Italian attitude of Party members, and the failures of the mass organizations.

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- 2 -

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2. At the conclusion of Vidali's speech, Giovanni Postegna invited all non-members of the Party's Central Committee to leave the meeting.

1. Comment: Postegna is a member of the Party's Executive Committee and a member of the Control Commission; Weiss is also a member of the Executive Committee and a member of the Unione delle Donne Democratiche (UDD; Union of Democratic Women); Bernetic is Assistant Secretary General of the Party and heads the Control Commission; Siskovic is a member of the Central Committee of the Party, but was dropped from the Party's Executive Committee at the last Party Congress; Calabria is a member of the Party's Central Committee and is prominent in trade union work.

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